

COMMERCIAL.

THE PACIFIC
Commercial Advertiser.SATURDAY, JANUARY 9.
The Board of Health Advertised.

The following is the reply transmitted by the Minister of the Interior to the Committee appointed by citizens to petition His Majesty for the removal of the Board of Health:

The schooner *Alaska* arrived on the 5th, from Oregon, with an assured cargo, consigned to Messrs. C. N. Spencer & Co. The clipper ship *Windward* arrived here on the 5th, en route for San Francisco, having left the freight and passengers behind her for the sea voyage.

The *Rush*, L. *Lane* arrived on the 2d last, for New Bedford, taking the largest and most valuable cargo (\$300,367 dollars) of which has left this port.

The real estate belonging to the estate of C. H. Lewis was sold by order of the Assignees on Monday last. The cottage on Kukui Lane was purchased by Mr. J. S. Lewis, for the sum of \$12,000. The property Fort King and Merchant was sold to Mr. George Morris, C. H. Lewis & Co. for \$10,000—being five dollars over the mortgage held by the purchasing parties.

In the European Mail of November 14th, we find as follows relating to Honolulu, Nov. 10th, at Liverpool, the *Fred Thompson*, 146 tons.

By the statistics of the Collector General of Customs it will be seen that the number of vessels cleared for the coast of Asia last closed, is in excess of exports for 1867. This is exciting, and we trust that the same may be said at the close of the present year.

The Collector General of Customs has prepared and published in the *Gazette*, a table of the principal exports for the year 1866, as compared with the year 1867, which we copy:

	1867.	1866.
Sugars, lbs.	1,150,000	1,150,000
Molasses, gallons	584,000	521,000
Pork, lbs.	492,000	432,000
Beef, lbs.	409,000	447,500
Coffee, lbs.	75,273	127,546
Tea, lbs.	1,000	1,000
Fish, lbs.	78,750	107,000
Fruit, lbs.	454	649
Bacon, lbs.	100	100
Beef, lbs.	149	253
Cotton, lbs.	8,413	13,532
Hides, lbs.	2,000	2,000
Hides, pens.	11,444	13,113
Tallow, lbs.	100,000	60,000
Wool, lbs.	22,974	49,471
Wool, pens.	100,000	100,000
Wool, pens, galls.	41,000	70,646
Wool, pens, galls.	11,269	48,444
Woolens, lbs.	16,312	56,454
Value domestic exports for 1867	1,260,622	62
Imports	\$ 16,847.24	

COMMERCIAL ITEMS.

The *Telegraph* in New York says—The *N. Y. Snap* last noticed at length the new line of sailing vessels which has been established between China and Portofino. The *Sister Brown* was dispatched in April last with an assured cargo of 700 tons, and the second, the *Friendship*, with 1,000 tons, left New York on the 2d instant, and will be followed by the *Friendship*.

Perhaps this reply is satisfactory to the public. The general feeling, however, seems to be that if the small-pox does not spread, it will be through especial favor of Providence, and not through the watchful care of the Board of Health.

San Francisco is complaining loudly of its Board of Health. That does not excuse ours. We must treat all cases on their own merits, and judge according to facts. We think facts show that we have here judged rightly.

are going out of vogue everywhere else. We have before us the report of a Committee, presented before a National Sanitary and Quarantine Convention, held in New York in 1859. It appears from that report that the old style of quarantine regulations were perhaps about as absurd as the present action of our Board of Health. Quarantine, however, in the older cities, relates principally to yellow fever and sometimes cholera. Small-pox is an existing fact in all those cities at all times. Here it is not so. It seems to have lost the sentiment of the Committee that the main reliance in the case of yellow fever should be to see that the conditions of health were observed on board of the vessels on the passage, and in the cities to which these diseases might be brought. That yellow fever is a disease generated under certain circumstances, and contagious only when certain predisposing causes exist, affording a soil, so to say, where the disease can be planted. So on board of the ship there must be certain states—lack of ventilation, poor food, crowded cabins, &c., in order to carry the disease. Of course, then, proper hygienic precautions are more reliable than any quarantine. So in a perfectly vaccinated community, this protection would be more valuable than quarantine regulations. But the Committee did not recommend the entire abolition of quarantine, by any means. It was the useless part of the system that was to be abolished. Small-pox, too, is especially mentioned as a disease that can be effectively excluded by good quarantine regulations. And this exception bears very strongly in a community known to be imperfectly vaccinated as is the native population of the Islands.

His Majesty further commands me to say, that the health of his people is always the subject of the greatest personal solicitude to himself, and that he is much gratified to find that your attention has been directed to the propriety of preventing against the spread of small-pox; that he is aware that the Board of Health has for some time past taken active measures to prevent the introduction and spread of this disease, and hopes the people will second their efforts by carefully attending to the duty of quarantine, even if it should be necessary to incur expense.

His Majesty further commands me to say, that the Board of Health are anxious in their attention to their duties.

The Minister of Interior is by the statute, ex-officio President of the Board, and the other members have been selected from the medical corps, and constitute a majority in the Board, and serve gratis.

Further, that upon that careful perusal of the petition, he does not observe that you have set forth any reason, nor is there any known to him, for requesting the recognition of any of those gentlemen.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,
FRED. W. HUTCHISON,
Minister of the Interior.

To MESSRS. R. G. DAVIS, J. O. CARTER, C. J. LYON,
J. W. KEAWEHUAHE, J. M. KAHALAEW,
Interior Office, January 4th, 1869.

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Quarantine as Understood in New York.

Since the publication of the conversation which took place between a member of the Board of Health and ourselves, the party alluded to has called upon us, and states that we misunderstood him when he stated "that the old ideas about the necessity of quarantining vessels arriving from infected districts, or which had disease prevalent on board, were fast becoming exploded;"—that he particularly referred to cholera and yellow fever.

How was it in this case? On the one hand, fear of the mercantile community, whose prejudices might be aroused should the vessel be detained, caused ready permission to be given that the vessel should immediately come to the wharf as if nothing had happened. From this point of view;—well, quarantine laws were all an exploded concern, relic of past ages, &c., &c.,—nothing that sort is sustained by the enlightened sentiment of the present day. So argued the Board of Health with reference to the cabin passengers who had been overboarded and converted into a sailing vessel at Wilmington, Delaware.

When the *Idaho* came to anchor outside, and the Board of Health were made aware of the state of matters, this latter body found itself in an unpleasant predicament. Unpleasant, that is, for persons who have not the many independence to make the safety of the community their supreme law of action, but who, on the contrary, must be guided, just when they ought not to be so guided, by the fear of this man's and that man's opinion. At other times, when the sentiments of others should guide them, then they are sublimely independent.

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